

16. Matai

Prumnopitus taxifolia

A non-flowering tree (conifer) quite common throughout NZ. The young matai looks quite different to the adult tree.

Leaves

Small, straight, dark-green leaves that alternate on the stem.

Smooth edges with round tips.
(NB: Miro tree leaves look similar but have banana shaped leaves)



Fruit

Purple – black round fruit.



Juvenile matai. Photo: Phil Bendle

Cones

Yellow cones.

Bark

Grey-brown bark that flakes off in big chunks, leaving red patches on trunk.



Photo: Phil Bendle

Size

Up to 30 metres tall.



Mature matai. Photo: Kiri Pullen

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